

U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Agent File No.: 15680-1us PTN/df

In re application of:

Fabien LAVOIE

For: LOAD-CARRYING APPARATUS  
Filed: December 10, 2003  
Serial No.: 10/731,110  
Examiner: Unknown  
Group Art Unit: Unknown

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450  
U.S.A.

Sir:

Pursuant to the duty of disclosure under 37 CFR 1.56, Applicant hereby requests that the prior art references listed on the attached form PTO/SB/08A/B (10-01) be considered by the Examiner in connection with his examination of the above-identified application, and be made of record in the application file.

**DISCUSSION**

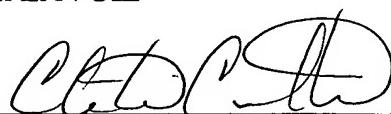
U.S. Patent No. 5,996,767 is discussed in the specification. The remaining references are of general interest only.

Should the Examiner have any questions after reviewing this Information Disclosure Statement, he is cordially invited to telephone the undersigned attorneys.

Respectfully submitted,

Fabien LAVOIE

By:



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February 16, 2004  
(Date)

Encl.

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| <br>Substitute for 164444449 PTO |   |    |   | Complete if Known      |                   |
| <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE<br/>STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b><br><i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>              |   |    |   | Application Number     | 10/731,110        |
|   |   |    |   | Filing Date            | December 10, 2003 |
|   |   |    |   | First Named Inventor   | Fabien LAVOIE     |
|   |   |    |   | Art Unit               | Unknown           |
|   |   |    |   | Examiner Name          | Unknown           |
| Sheet   | 1 | of | 2 | Attorney Docket Number | 15680-1us PTN/df  |

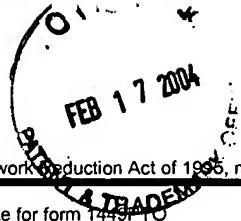
## **U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

## **FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

|                       |  |                    |  |
|-----------------------|--|--------------------|--|
| Examiner<br>Signature |  | Date<br>Considered |  |
|-----------------------|--|--------------------|--|

**\*EXAMINER:** Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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PTO/SB/08A/B 08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

Approved for use through 07-06-2003, GPO: 2001-000

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| <p><b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE<br/>STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b></p> <p>(use as many sheets as necessary)</p> <p>Sheet <b>2</b> of <b>2</b></p> |  | <i>Complete if Known</i> |                          |
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|  |  | First Named Inventor     | <b>Fabien LAVOIE</b>     |
|  |  | Art Unit                 | <b>Unknown</b>           |
|  |  | Examiner Name            | <b>Unknown</b>           |
| Attorney Docket Number <b>15680-1us PTN/df</b>   |  |                          |                          |

## NON-PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

|                       |  |                    |  |
|-----------------------|--|--------------------|--|
| Examiner<br>Signature |  | Date<br>Considered |  |
|-----------------------|--|--------------------|--|

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<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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